

Pride in our Pocket Parks Meeting 2/19/11

Vicki Baroody, Laurence Erussard, Amanda Garris, Sage Gerling, Jason Hagerman, Anne Hoyt, Art Lewis, Scott and Katie Ostrowski, Chief Frank Paine (GPD), Bill Pealer, Lt. Jeff Trickler (GPD), Loren Marshall, and Paul Wagner

Brief summary: We decided to host two bike themed events in 2011 as part of our Pocket Parks Passport Parties. The first will be a "Spring bike tune-up" for kids at Bicentennial Park on April 16th with bike safety, bike tune-ups, basic repair, and other activities. The second event will be a bike park tour on Saturday, July 9th that will travel to ~4 parks. We brainstormed some ideas for other Parks Passport events, which we hope to finalize at our next meeting. **Our next meeting will be Thursday, March 3rd (6:00-7:00 pm) at the GNRC.**

Pocket Parks Passport Parties: Bike safety/tuneup: April 16th, 11:00am-2:00pm. (We had initially hoped to hold this in conjunction with the Lakefest/Seneca7 race on April 30th, but those events will be located near the Ramada.) This event will be similar to the Bike Rodeo offered by the Geneva Police Department in conjunction with Finger Lakes Health. It will include basic bike safety, helmet checks, bike repair 101 and will be the first chance for the community to see the new bike rack/bench design plans being created by two HWS architectural studies students.

Community Partners:

- Geneva Police Department (bike safety, contact Lt. Jeff Trickler)
- New York Chiropractic College Volunteers (ergonomics, contact Vicki Baroody)
- Geneva Bicycle Center? (bike repair station, Bill will contact)
- Hobart and William Smith (bike rack/bench prototype, Loren will contact Ben and Claire)

Bike tour: July 9th- time to be determined. Kids will bike a course between four parks in close proximity, getting a passport stamp at each park. We selected this weekend to tie into the Hog Rally/Cruisin' Night events that weekend. Each park may need to have an event or freebie. Event could culminate in a BMX bike exhibition at the skate park.

Specific needs

- Prizes (donations of locks, bikes, helmets, water bottles)
- BMX bike exhibition at the skate park at end of route?
- Select park and determine child-safe routes
- Do we want to contact the Hog Rally organizer Shannon Combs for some involvement?
- Police will need to help with the route, and volunteers will be needed for intersections

Brainstorming other park passport ideas

- boccé (Jefferson, Memorial Day weekend? HWS Field House for overflow parking? Contact Russ Hess.)
- croquet
- lawn darts
- dodgeball
- youth kickball

- hopskotch
- badminton
- live theater (Pultney)
- frisbee (September? Fundraiser for HWS ultimate frisbee? Nieder or Jefferson)
- softball (Ridgewood)
- stargazing (Washington, Gulvin, or Clark)
- board games in conjunction with Lake City Hobby (Bicentennial)
- event with local vendors (Bicentennial)
- rain barrel project or other event by the Green Committee

Noted: Neider may need cleanup before an event there

Advertising/Publicity

Leafleting in neighborhoods

Sending info home with students (when school is in session)

Finger Lakes Times

HWS emails

GNRC listserve

Child care centers

Update: Bench/bike rack design. HWS students Ben and Claire are designing a bike rack for locations around Geneva. They will likely start building this summer, but they will bring the design/prototype to the bike rally. It was noted that the benches in Pultney are in bad shape, and maintenance needs to be kept in mind with any design.

Update: Survey. Loren is working on a draft of the parks survey. She will need feedback on the draft and some volunteers to be interviewed. She is hoping both to cover parks programming and safety/physical amenities.

Update: Park entrances. To make the park entrance more welcoming, we will be seeking landscapers/neighborhood groups/enthusiastic gardeners to adopt a park entrance, install plantings, and maintain them over the summer. In return they will get free advertising through acknowledgements at the park, on the Geneva Parks and Recreation Website, on the GNRC website, and any other publicity we can generate. Brook Street Park is already adopted, and Sage, Fred, and Amanda are working on a letter to solicit participation.

Action items

- Contact bike shop to see if they would like to be involved in the bike events (Bill)
- Recruit FL Chiropractic College Students for April 16th (Vicky)
- Recruit HWS students to volunteer for 4/16 bike event (Loren)
- Contact director of student life at FLCC to find out about summer volunteers (Bill)
- Survey draft and group interviews (Loren)
- Get ideas from Jim Greco, owner of Lake City Hobby, for events (Scott)
- Find out the city food vending regulations for events (Sage)
- Confirm that Joe Marone can come to the next meeting to share about skate park idea (Sage)
- Check out Bicentennial Park for logistics for April bike event (Sage)
- Brainstorm ideas for the rest of the Pocket Park Passport Parties (Everyone)